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62127  
Catalog of our

# ALTON IMPROVED RED RASPBERRY

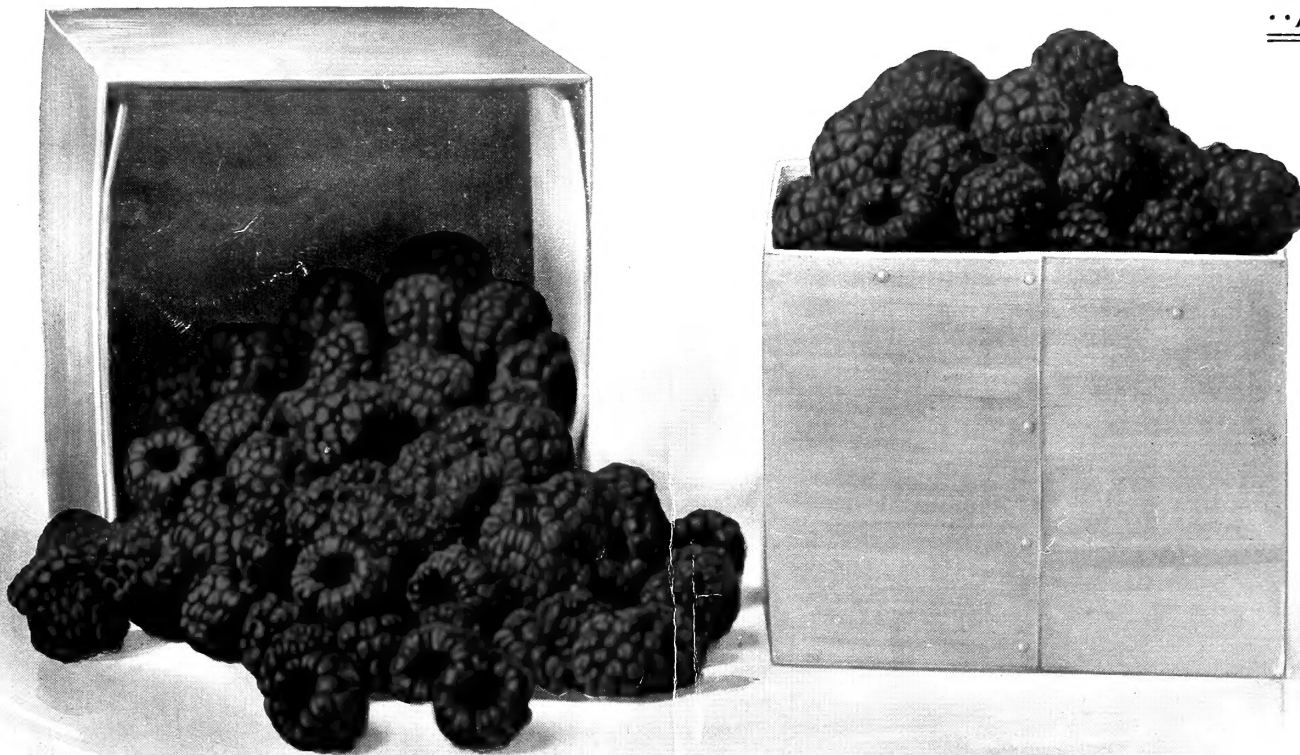
1910  
"GILBERTSON  
GROWN"



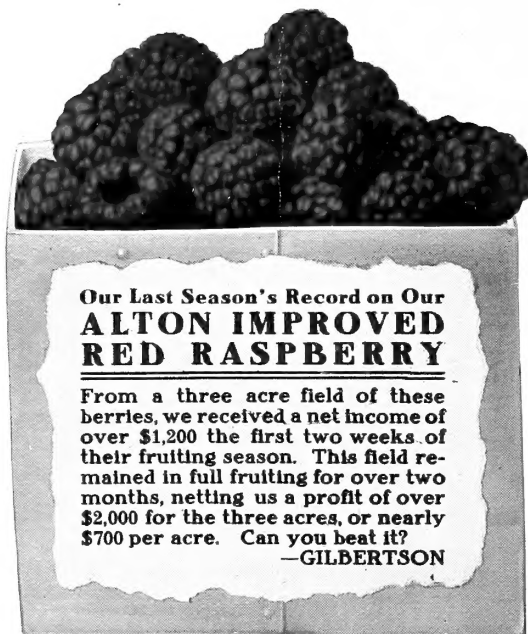
GILBERTSON NURSERY CO.  
MASON CITY, IOWA

GRANDPA'S PRIDE  
GLOBE ONIONS  
AMERICAN GINSENG

and OUR ROOTPRUNED  
APPLE TREES



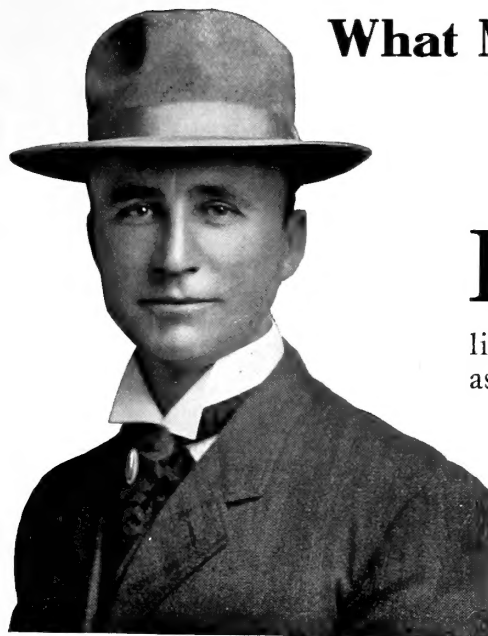
LIBRARY,  
U. S. Department of Agriculture,  
Washington, D. C.



Our Last Season's Record on Our  
**ALTON IMPROVED  
RED RASPBERRY**

From a three acre field of these berries, we received a net income of over \$1,200 the first two weeks of their fruiting season. This field remained in full fruiting for over two months, netting us a profit of over \$2,000 for the three acres, or nearly \$700 per acre. Can you beat it?

—GILBERTSON



**A. O. GILBERTSON**  
President Gilbertson Nursery Company

## What Mr. Gilbertson, the Grower, Has to Say About His

**"ALTON IMPROVED" RED RASPBERRY—**

**GRANDPA'S PRIDE GLOBE ONIONS—**

**ROOTPRUNED APPLE TREES, AND**

**AMERICAN GINSENG**

**I** BELIEVE that there are as great possibilities in certain fruit raising lines in the great Northwest as there are anywhere in the United States. I have devoted this catalog exclusively to telling you about some of our special lines of nursery stock that we have originated and have been growing on a large scale for general market purposes for a number of years.

You can see what we have accomplished on Iowa soil. I am absolutely sure that the same thing can be done almost anywhere in the great Northwest with any one of these special varieties that we are offering you.

We have been experimenting and developing these different lines in very much the same manner as we have our evergreens which have proven to be the peer of all evergreens grown.

We know from our many years' experience in thoroughly testing out our Alton Improved Red Raspberry, our Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions and our Rootpruned Apple Trees that they are a complete success. Our stock this year in all these lines is very limited, and we are offering only a small

amount of our pedigreed seeds and plants this year. We wish to distribute this stock over as large a territory in the Northwest as possible for advertising purposes.

We know from our own experience that there is big money to be made in the systematic and careful growing of any of these special lines and we ask you to give our Alton Improved Red Raspberry, our Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions and our Rootpruned Apple Trees a trial this season.

### **The Alton Improved Red Raspberry**

This wonderful berry has made us money in the past and we know that it will make just as much money for our customers. We have been growing our Alton Improved Red Raspberry for market purposes for the past eight years. It has made such a wonderful record with us that we are now for the first time putting a limited quantity of plants on the market. Already one-half of our entire stock of plants for this year has been taken by parties who have seen this wonderful berry in bearing and have had a chance to see exactly what this raspberry is capable of doing. This is the best proof that we have to offer you that our Alton Improved Red Raspberry is the wonderful success that we claim for it in this catalog.

We almost hesitate to tell you what this berry has actually done for us for it is so far ahead of anything else that we have ever experimented with in the raspberry line for heavy bearing, best quality, and hardiness that it is entirely in a class by itself. Our Alton Improved Red Raspberry excels any red raspberry grown today. We have for years been improv-

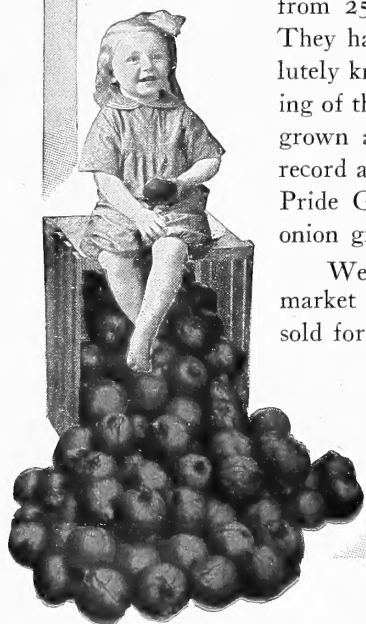
ing this wonderful raspberry by careful selection and restriction, as well as thorough cultivation until we absolutely know that it is one of the most wonderful berries ever produced.

Let us ship you at least one or two dozen plants of this wonderful berry this season to prove to you what this berry is capable of doing. An acre of this wonderful berry properly cultivated will make you as much money as 40 or 50 acres devoted to ordinary cultivation. At the present high prices of real estate it is up to you to make your land earn you as much as possible.

### Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions

We have cultivated and grown our Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions almost as long as we have our famous Gilbertson Guaranteed Evergreens. Mr. Gilbertson, the founder of our nursery business, has for the last thirty years been growing this, our famous strain of onions, for special customers in New York, Chicago and Memphis at prices ranging from 25c to 50c per bushel above the regular market. They have been a complete success with us and we absolutely know from our many years' experience in the growing of this strain of onions that there is no strain of onions grown anywhere in this country that has made a better record and can make a better showing than our Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions. They are the most perfect globe onion grown today.

We have always been able to sell our onions on the market at a far better price than ordinary onions have sold for from the fact that it is possible with our strain of onions to keep them in an ordinary cellar in a perfect condition until ordinary onions are partly or entirely spoiled. This has been accomplished by a scientific selection of our seed



stock from year to year. We have such confidence in this strain of onions of ours that we are willing to put our evergreen reputation back of them right from the start.

Let us send you one package, at least, of this wonderful strain of globe onions for next spring's planting.

### Our Rootpruned Apple Trees

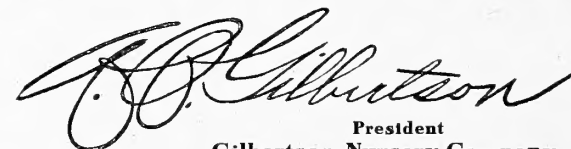
We grow only such varieties of apple trees as we have found after years of careful selection and development to be best adapted for the Northwest. The writer is very much impressed with the popularity of this section of the country as an apple producing field.

Apples can not help but make you money. They are today and have for the past three or four years been selling for more per dozen than oranges the biggest part of the year. You can not possibly make a mistake if you plant a liberal orchard of our hardy rootpruned apple trees the coming spring.

### Ginseng

I just want you to read our record in this catalog of what we have accomplished in the way of growing ginseng. We are not offering any ginseng seeds or plants this year as our entire stock of seeds and plants has already been sold. We are simply giving these figures to prove to you our statements that there is money to be made in ginseng if given the proper care.

These four special lines that we are showing in this catalog are the only lines of nursery stock that we grow in addition to our guaranteed evergreens. This stock is all grown in our own nurseries and sold exclusively by us.

  
President  
Gilbertson Nursery Company

# The Alton Improved Red Raspberry

## An Explanation

We had some very fine photographs and views taken of our raspberry plants and different fields which we expected to reproduce in this catalog along with the views of our onions, apple trees and ginseng to show you more clearly what the Alton Improved Red Raspberry has actually done for us in our nursery. We regret to state however, that all our raspberry photographs and plates, except those of the berry shown in catalog were destroyed by fire. This occurred too late for us to take new views so we are compelled to omit from this catalog many illustrations this season which would convince you of the superiority of the Alton Improved Red Raspberry.

Our Alton Improved Red Raspberry is absolutely hardy, having stood the severe winters of Northern Iowa, Minnesota, North and South Dakota and even as far north as Canada, without the slightest protection whatever and without showing any sign of winter-killing.

## Quality the Very Best

The Alton Improved Raspberry has a most wonder-

ful quality. In fact, in this respect as well as in all its other good qualities, it stands in a class by itself. The flavor is one of the most remarkable that we have ever tasted in any red raspberry.

We have for a large number of years been improving the Alton Raspberry by systematic selection and restriction until today we believe we have in the Alton Raspberry the most wonderful berry that we have ever grown. In fact it is so far superior to any other raspberry that it is almost out of the question to make any comparison whatever.

## It Is Absolutely Hardy

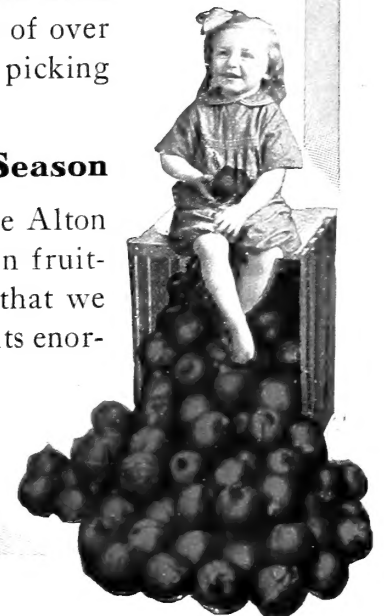
Our Alton Improved Red Raspberry is absolutely

## The Most Productive

The Alton Raspberry is the most productive berry we have ever grown. In a three acre field that we fruited the past season these berries remained in full fruiting for over two months and this in the face of the most severe drought that has ever visited our state. This three acre field produced a net income of over \$1200 the first two weeks of its fruiting season and at the close of the season figured out a net income of over \$2000 over and above all expenses of picking and harvesting the crop.

## A Wonderfully Long Fruiting Season

Another great advantage with the Alton Raspberry is the fact that it remains in fruiting the longest of any red raspberry that we have ever seen. It commences to bear its enormous crop about the first of July and produces a heavy crop throughout August and the greater part of Sep-





tember. It has been a common thing for us to have fresh Alton Raspberries served on the table for a period of over three months each season. All of our customers that have ever tasted the Alton Raspberry will accept no other. Once a customer they are always a customer.

The Alton Raspberry sold on the markets of such places as Mason City, Waterloo, Charles City and Albert Lea, at 25 cents a quart the past season while ordinary raspberries were a drug on the market at 15 cents a quart.

We have tried to make the price on this wonderful raspberry low enough so that it is within the reach of all. And we would earnestly urge all of our customers to try at least one dozen of our famous Alton Improved Raspberries as we know that no fruit garden will be complete without a good supply of this wonderful berry.

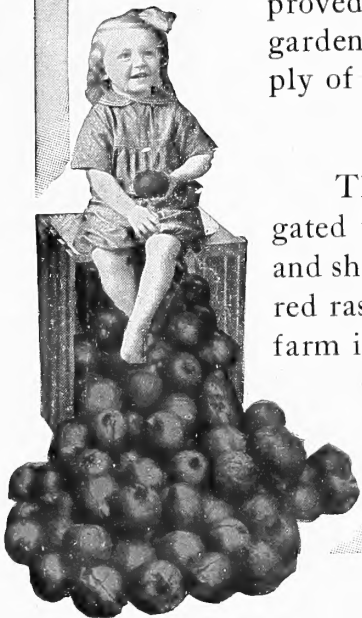
### Propagation

The Alton Raspberry, while it is propagated from the roots, propagates very slowly and should not be compared with the ordinary red raspberry which will spread all over your farm in a few years. In fact it propagates so slowly that our supply of plants that we offer for sale this season is very limited. The canes are of a low,

strong and stalky growth which carries the enormous load of fruit with which it loads itself well from the ground.

As we said before we have spent a large amount of money and hard work covering a large number of years in the improving of this, our Alton Improved Red Raspberry, until we believe we are fully justified in saying that we have produced the most wonderful red raspberry in existence. This wonderful berry has been brought about by the most scientific and careful selection and restriction with a view of producing the most wonderful red raspberry in existence and how well we have succeeded along these lines is proven by the large number of endorsements we have received from prominent men who have seen this berry. Also evidence of our success in producing the Alton Raspberry is proven by the number of photographs reproduced in this catalog of this, our Famous Red Raspberry. In fact, the Alton Raspberry shows what brains, persistency and long years of systematic selection and restriction will produce when directed along the proper channels.

We can not help but look with pride upon the great success we have attained with our three great specialties: *Our Guaranteed Evergreens, Our Alton Improved Red Raspberry*, and, last but not least, *Our Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions*.







Our Master Alton telling Papa how it all happened.

I am reproducing here and on the two following pages three unsolicited testimonials regarding Our Alton Improved Red Raspberry. I want you to read what these three men have to say regarding my wonderful berry. If you are thinking of setting out a raspberry patch this spring you can buy no better plants than mine, but I would suggest that you get your order in early as my stock is limited and will go out quick.—GILBERTSON.

## THE WILLIAM GALLOWAY COMPANY

INCORPORATED - AUTHORIZED CAPITAL \$3,500,000  
WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS OF  
MANURE SPREADERS GASOLINE ENGINES **THE GREAT GALLOWAY LINE** CREAM SEPARATORS AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

CABLE ADDRESS: GALLOWAY ABC CODE USED

GALLOWAY STATION  
WATERLOO, IOWA Feb. 7, 1910.

Mr. A. O. Gilbertson,  
Gilbertson Nursery Co.,  
Mason City, Iowa.

Dear Sir:

I want to drop you a line about your Alton Improved Red Raspberries.

They are the finest I ever saw. I received a crate of them last year and every one of them was as big as an ordinary man's thumb. They were also a very fine flavor.

Your work in the production of this berry is, in my estimation, worthy of the commendation of everybody interested in this line of work, and I would like next spring to put in quite a quantity of them on my farm between Waterloo and Cedar Falls, as the ever bearing features makes them more desirable than any other raspberry I know of today offered by anybody in this line.

You are certainly to be congratulated on this wonderful product, and I wish you continued success.

Yours very truly,

*Wm Galloway*

WG-65

*William Galloway, president of the William Galloway Company, had a crate of our berries last season. Now he wants to buy a quantity of our plants and raise his own berries. Read what he has to say*



# KIMBALL'S DAIRY FARMER

SEMI-MONTHLY.

FOR THE MEN WHO OWN THE COWS.

WATERLOO, IOWA, U.S.A.

Feb. 8, 1910.

Read here  
what Mr.  
Andrews,  
Manager of  
Kimball's  
Dairy  
Farmer,  
says  
regarding  
our Alton  
Improved Red  
Raspberry

Gilbertson Nursery Co.,  
Mason City, Iowa.

Gentlemen:-

It was my privilege to visit your patch of Alton Improved Red Raspberries several times last season and to enjoy eating them picked fresh from the bushes at various times during the entire period from July 10th to September 1st.

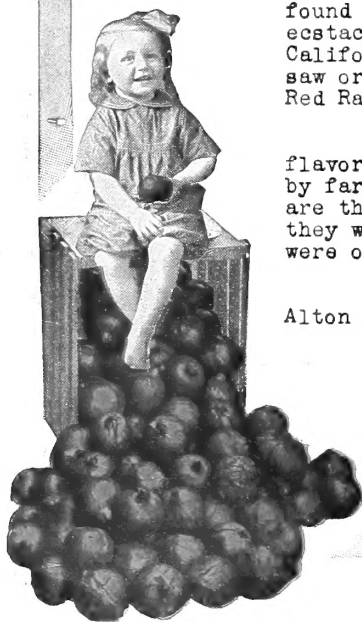
I have frequently remarked that if an Iowan found such fruit in California he would go into ecstasies over it. I have seen growing and eaten California, Oregon and Washington fruit, but never saw or tasted anything to compare with your Alton Red Raspberries.

They are large, luscious, rich in color and flavor, and the several crates that my wife canned are by far the nicest sauce we have had this winter. They are the largest yielders I have ever seen and I know they were producing long after all other raspberries were out of the market.

I had rather have propagated the Improved Alton Red Raspberry than be Governor of Iowa.

Yours truly,

*J. W. Andrews*  
Manager KIMBALL'S DAIRY FARMER.



Our Master Alton says there is no fisherman quite like his papa, and no Red Raspberry like the Alton Improved.



Our Master Alton inspecting Papa's six-pound Cedar River pike.



J. L. FELLOWS, V. Pres. & Treas. CHAS. F. CHASE, President H. G. LYMAN, Secretary

## Chase Manufacturing Company



GRINNELL, IOWA, Feb. 8, 1910.

Mr. A. O. Gilbertson,  
Gilbertson Nursery Co.,  
Mason City, Iowa.

Dear Sir:

I just want to tell you what I think of your Alton Improved Red Raspberry.

I never in my life saw berries the size of yours. The crate I got of you last year was the best crate of berries I ever saw or ever had from anywhere. They are the best flavored Red Raspberry I ever tasted.

It was hard for me to believe that there could be any such berry as yours but I am now thoroughly convinced that you have accomplished something in the growing of this berry that no other man has ever been able to do.

If I had the ground I would not be without a patch of these berries and I am satisfied that if you put these plants on the market you will have to go some to supply the demand.

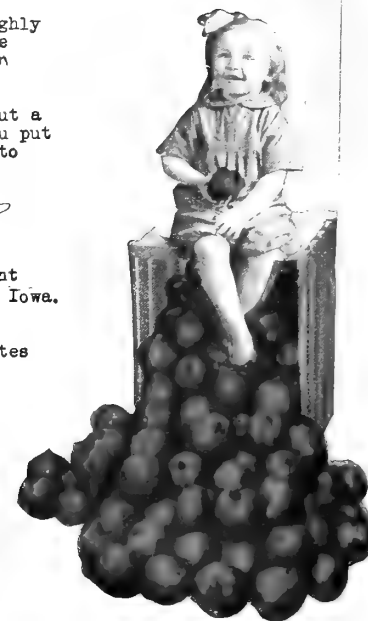
Very truly,

*Chas. F. Chase*  
President

CHASE MFG. CO., Grinnell, Iowa.

P. S. I want you to furnish me three crates of berries this season.

*Mr. Chas. F. Chase, of the Chase Manufacturing Co., thinks we will have to go some to supply the demand for our Alton Improved Red Raspberry Plants*

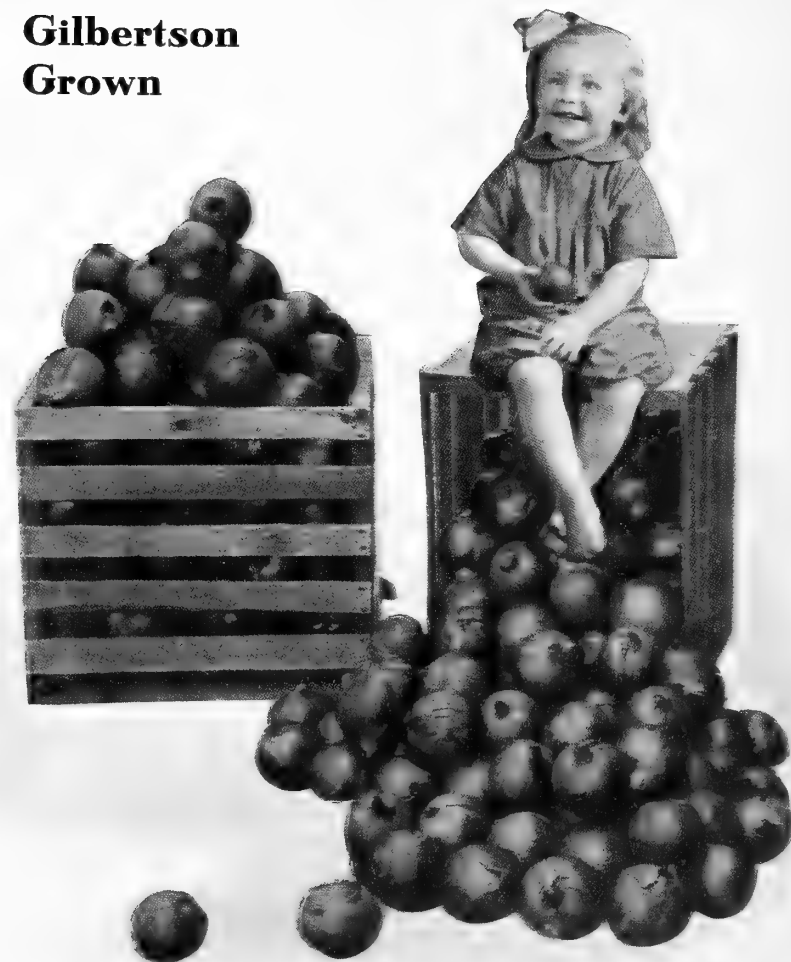


## **Our 1909 Season's Record**

### **With Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions in Our Own Nursery**

We grew 42 acres of our famous Grandpa's Pride Globe onions the past season. This field of 42 acres produced a gross yield of 42 carloads, in other words, it produced on an average one carload of 600 bushels to the acre and this in the face of one of the most severe droughts that has ever visited this part of the state. We had absolutely no rainfall for seven weeks during the most critical part of the growing season of our onions.

## **Gilbertson Grown**



**Our Little Inspector—Grandpa's Pride**

## Our Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions

### We Grow Them for the Market at Our Nurseries by the Train Load

Our Mr. Gilbertson, the founder of our company, has devoted almost a life time to the growing of onions on a large scale. Onion growing is one of his great hobbies and he is considered one of the greatest onion experts in the Northwest.

He has not been contented to merely grow onions simply from the fact that there was money in it, but he has used the greatest care in developing and improving this special strain of our famous Grandpa's Pride Globe onions, until today I believe we are fully justified in saying we have one of the finest strains of globe onions grown in the United States.

This wonderful globe onion, which we have named "Grandpa's Pride," is the result of over thirty years' careful selection and restriction. We have developed this, our special strain of onions, with a view of producing a perfect globe, a long keeper, high color, small neck, and an enormous yielder.

If you could see the care we employ in selecting our seed onions from year to year you would not wonder at the remarkable success we have had in accomplishing this wonderful success with our famous strain of Grandpa's Pride Globe onions.

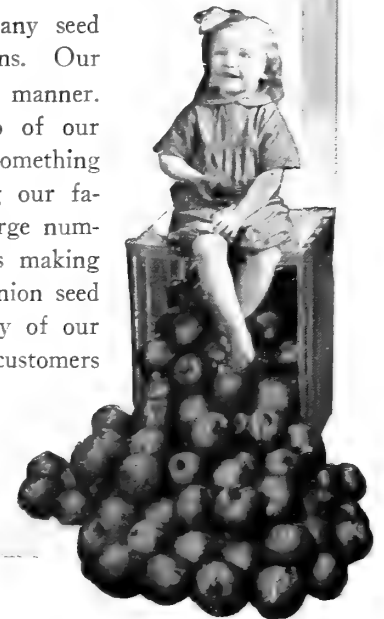
The biggest trouble with the average seed man is that he does not take the necessary precaution in selecting his seed stock. It is too often the case that inferior bulbs that have proven worthless for commercial purposes are used for seed stock. Any one with any experience in the growing of onions can see at a glance the folly of producing seed from such inferior stock. With us we have for the past thirty years or more selected only the very choice specimens from our fields to produce our next year's seed crop. Remember we have done

this year after year until now we are able to produce a crop of the most uniform globe onions you ever saw.

The beautiful colored illustration of our "Little Inspector" on two crates of Grandpa's Pride Globe onions on the opposite page will show you how well we have succeeded along these lines. The onions shown in this illustration are just as they looked when pulled from the field. Turn to page 10 and 11 where we show a large illustration of a part of our 40 acre onion field during harvest time.

We have spent considerable time and money in experimenting and testing out the different strains of globe onions offered on the market, but as yet we have not found any strain of onions that we would give a place in our field as compared with our Grandpa's Pride Globe onions.

It was not our first intention to offer any seed from our famous Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions. Our doing so this year has come about in an unusual manner. Last year we showed an illustration or two of our onion fields in our evergreen catalog and told something about our method of growing and cultivating our famous strain of onions. We received such a large number of inquiries from our evergreen customers making an urgent request for a trial package of our onion seed that we have decided to put a limited quantity of our onion seeds on the market this year for our customers only. Read all about the superior points of our Grandpa's Pride Globe onions on pages 13, 14 and 15.







## The Man



**G. G. GILBERTSON**  
Founder Gilbertson Nursery Company

Our Mr. Gilbertson has been growing onions on a large scale for over thirty years. He is considered the greatest onion expert in the Northwest. The growing of onions has been his life time hobby. He has not been contented to merely grow onions for the market but has made a thorough and systematic study along scientific lines with a view of improving and developing his Globe onions so that they would be superior in every way to any onions grown in the United States. How well he has accomplished this you can see from the illustration showing part of his forty acre onion field. He is also the inventor and patentee of our famous onion planter.

## The Field

We are just showing here a glimpse of our onion field. This view shows only a part of our forty acre onion field during the harvest time in the season of 1909. It shows something of what our new onion seeder is capable of doing. However, it is only fair to say that in the spring of 1909 we had a series of very unfavorable weather. Shortly after these onions came up we had a severe rain storm accompanied with hail which destroyed a large percent of the young plants. Otherwise you would not have seen any vacant spaces in the rows. This view is part of the forty acre field planted in the season of 1909 which produced forty-two carloads of onions at about 600 bushels to the carload.



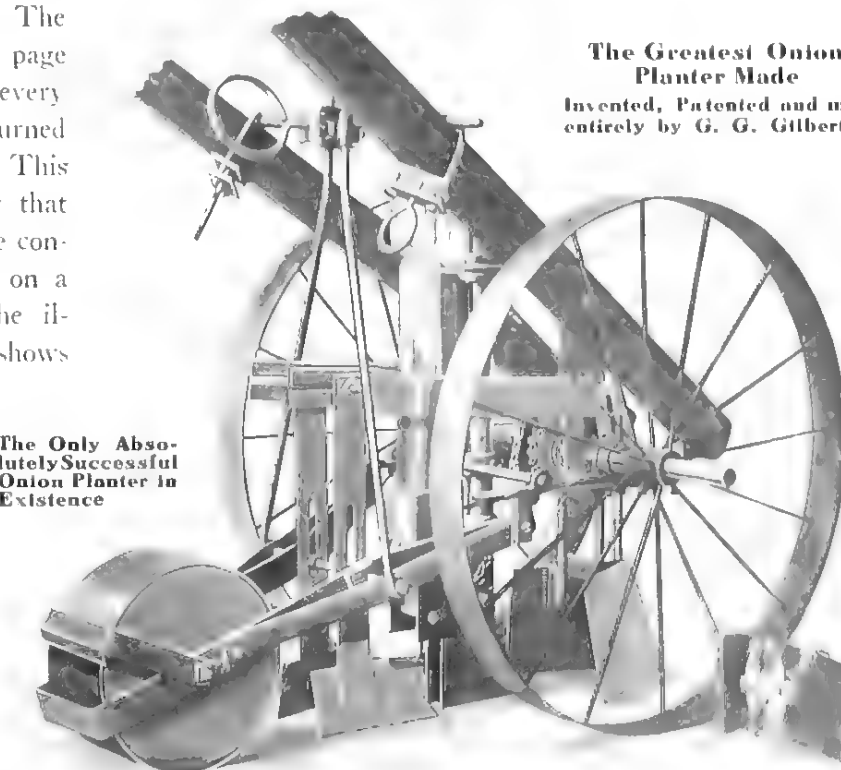
**A Part of Our 40-Acre Onion Field at Harvesting Time**

## The Machine That Helped Produce It

We are showing here the machine that is revolutionizing the growing of onions with us. Our onion and garden planter was invented by our Mr. Gilbertson. For years the greatest obstacle we incurred in the growing of onions on a large scale was to get a machine that would sow the seeds accurately. We have tried every onion seeder manufactured and offered on the market today, however, we have never been able to find a machine that was capable of seeding such difficult seeds as onion and beet seeds accurately enough, whereby it was unnecessary to have them thinned. We do not claim there are not onion seeders manufactured today that will seed onion seed thin enough so that it is not necessary to have them thinned, but in doing this they will leave a large percentage of blanks in the row. Being of a mechanical turn of mind, our Mr. Gilbertson set about a number of years ago to devise and perfect a machine which would do this work to our entire satisfaction.

We have today three of these machines. The only machine of its kind in the world. They have been invented and patented by our Mr. Gilbertson and have been used exclusively in the planting of our large onion fields. The

machine that you see on this page is a hand-made machine, every bolt and burr of it has been turned out by our Mr. Gilbertson. This machine works so accurately that we would not for one minute consider the growing of onions on a large scale without it. The illustration of our onion field shows part of what the possibilities of this great machine are. It is made so that it will handle any kind of garden seed known. Read more about this wonderful machine on the next page of this catalog.



**The Greatest Onion Planter Made**  
Invented, Patented and made entirely by G. G. Gilbertson

**The Only Absolutely Successful Onion Planter in Existence**



## More About Our Onion Planter

We are not putting our Gilbertson onion planter on the market for sale this season. We are simply showing this machine here because we consider it largely responsible for the great record we have made in the growing of onions. It will also show you how thoroughly we have studied and mastered the growing of our thoroughbred onions for we find it practically impossible to grow our onions the way we want to grow them without this special devised machine.

We have several standing offers from experienced onion growers of from \$100 to \$150 for this machine just as soon as we are organized in such a way that we can manufacture or have it manufactured for us.

This machine means so much to us in the growing of our onions that we would not consider growing onions today on a large scale without it.

We are right now considering plans for having this machine manufactured on a large enough scale to supply the demand for such a useful machine as this.

We consider our machine perfect for the planting of almost every kind of garden seed. Every person who has had experience in planting garden seed knows that the two most difficult seeds to plant are onion and sugar beet seeds. We guarantee that our machine will plant these seeds so that they will not require any thinning out and without leaving blank spaces in the row.

Every experienced onion grower who has seen the machine work says it's the most remarkable machine of its kind they have ever seen. We have had offers from practically every man

who has ever seen the machine at work for from three to ten times. They all want to know what the machine will actually cost if placed on the market.

Here is the great advantage of the Gilbertson onion seeder over other seeders now on the market. It is possible with our machine to plant the seed any distance apart you desire—from one-half inch to sixteen inches. It will plant without a miss any way you regulate it.

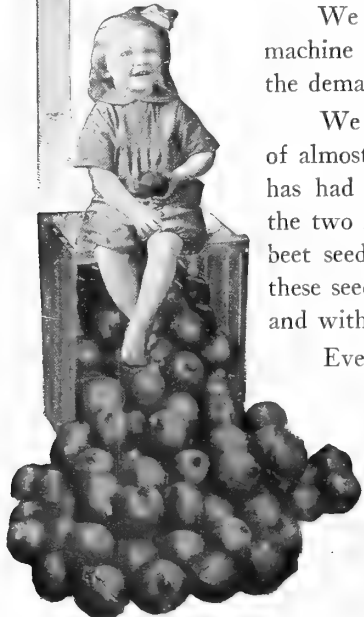
Any experienced onion grower will grasp in a moment the great advantage of having a seeder that will do work of this kind as it saves the large expense and annoyance of thinning your onions at a time when every one, as a rule, has trouble enough to fight weeds. It not only absolutely saves thinning of your onion field but it is also a saver of seed even if you only plant a few acres.

If you will look up the descriptions furnished by the average garden seeder manufacturers you will find that they advocate the sowing of from four to six pounds onion seed to the acre. We find it possible to produce a full stand by seeding one-half to two pounds of onion seed to the acre.

Any onion grower will know from experience the expense and annoyance of thinning an acre of onions. This is absolutely done away with by using our onion seeder to say nothing about the two to four pounds of onion seed actually saved on each acre.



The above view shows how we store our globe onions in bushel crates in our large curing sheds. Our young inspector in the foreground.



# Points of Superiority of Our Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions



Our Master Alton O. Jr. at 14 months old, inspecting our thoroughbred globe onions. We grew over 24,000 bushels of our globe onions the past season.

## Extra Fine Keeping Quality

We have on several occasions kept Grandpa's Pride Globe onions over one year, or in other words kept one season's crop until the next fall, when our next year's crop was matured. In looking at the two different crops, even an expert could not detect which crop had just been harvested and which crop had been kept over from the previous year. Understand, these onions were not kept in cold storage, simply in an ordinary cellar.

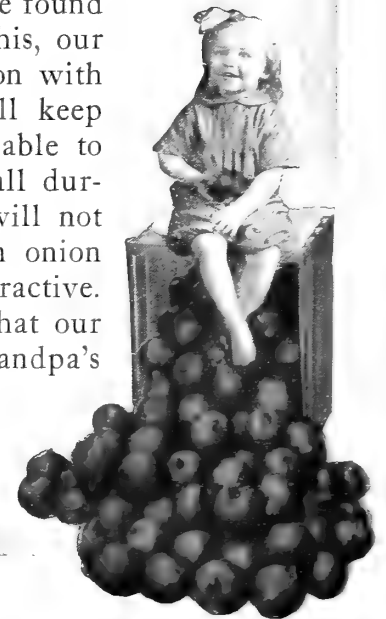
## A Perfect Globe

We absolutely know from the investigation we have made in trying out the different strains of globe onions that are offered on the market that our Grandpa's Pride Globe onions are by far the most perfect globe onions grown today. Just take a look at the photographs that we have reproduced from these onions. At the first glance one might take them for a crate of apples, so perfect a globe shape and uniform in size are they. The different strains of globe onions offered on the market that we have tried out have not been at all satisfactory

with us, as they have produced a large per cent of either too flat or too long bulbs. A long onion is almost as undesirable as a flat one, from the fact that they always have a large top. An onion with a large top is more subject to taking in excessive moisture during the growing season which will always cause more or less trouble later on in the way of decay or rot. A long shaped onion is never satisfactory from the fact that they do not make a good appearance when put on the market.

## A Small Neck

In the scientific selection of bulbs for our seed stock for the past thirty years we have always made this one of our strong points as we have found from experience in the growing of this, our famous strain of onions, that an onion with a small neck in the first place will keep much better as it is not nearly so liable to water-soak in case of excessive rainfall during the growing season; second, it will not produce as many scullions; third, an onion with a small neck is by far the most attractive. We wish to add in this connection that our last year's crop of 40 acres of our Grandpa's Pride Globe onions did not produce as much as a bushel of scullions. This record we consider very phenomenal.



### **Rich High Color**

Our red strain of Grandpa's Pride Globe onions has a dark rich red color making it very attractive, and our yellow strain of Grandpa's Pride Globe onions has a rich dark orange color making it one of the most handsome yellow globe onions we have ever seen.

### **Large Yields**

We hold a record of our Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions of 812 bushels to the acre. We do not know how much more this strain of onions could be made to yield on a single acre. The figures that we are giving you is a net average yield covering our entire field of 40 acres.

In order to produce these results we always provide ideal conditions for our onions. We never do anything in our nursery in a half-hearted way. We always believe in the old maxim, "*whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well.*"

### **Onion Raising With Us Is a Business Proposition**

Our globe onions are grown under the most ideal conditions. We never consider an onion field ready to produce a crop of onions until it has been

thoroughly summer fallowed for at least two seasons previous to the sowing of the seed. In this way we make the ground as near clean as possible from weeds; however, when we have once gotten our ground clean we never allow any weeds to go to seed.

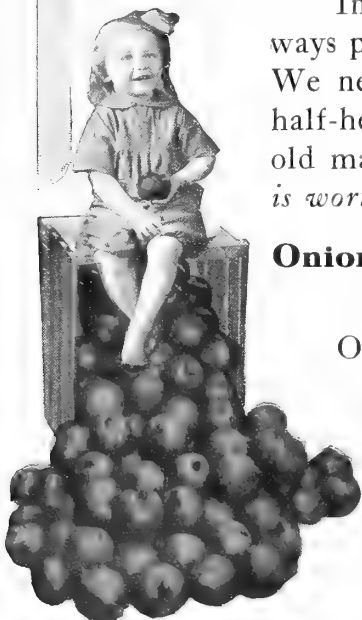
We dare say that in our 40 acre field of onions that we grew the past season we did not allow a single weed to go to seed.

In preparing our ground for onions we make it as rich as possible. There is no crop that we know of that requires a better and richer fertilized soil than the growing of onions. It is almost impossible to use too much manure and fertilizer in enriching the soil. We cover our ground with about 150 to 200 loads of well rotted barn yard manure and as this is liable to produce more weed seed we go after it another season and thoroughly summer fallow it when the ground will be in the very best of condition to produce a heavy crop of onions for a number of years.

### **Protection**

Right here I want to call your attention to the fact that in producing the seed from this, Our Famous Strain of Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions, it is absolutely necessary to protect our field with a good evergreen wind-break as shown on the opposite page.

If you are at all interested in an evergreen wind-break do not fail to get our wonderful book on scientifically grown, guaranteed evergreens. They grow or they cost you nothing.

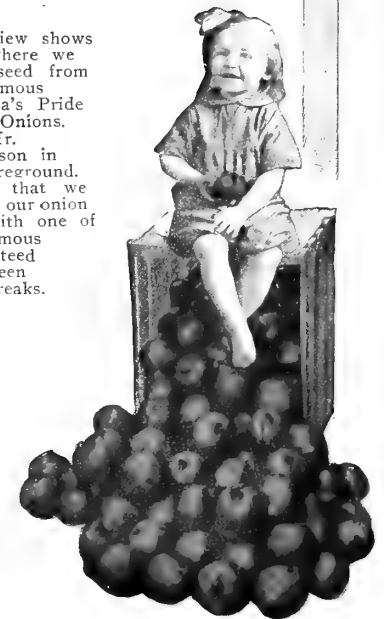


**Only a Limited Stock of Our Famous Grandpa's Pride Globe Onion Seed  
For Sale This Year**

**I** WANT EVERY FARMER in the Northwest who gets my catalog to have at least a trial package of this, my Famous Strain of Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions. I have, therefore, made my price as reasonable as possible, quality considered. I have worked for 31 long years to produce this wonderful strain of onions. I want you to see what I have accomplished. Get your order in early before our stock is exhausted.—GILBERTSON.



This view shows field where we grow seed from our famous Grandpa's Pride Globe Onions. Our Mr. Gilbertson in the foreground. Notice that we protect our onion field with one of our famous Guaranteed Evergreen Windbreaks.



## Our Rootpruned Apple Trees

We have been growing our hardy rootpruned apple trees for a number of years. When we commenced the propagation of nursery stock over thirty years ago we were exclusive growers of hardy fruit trees such as apple, plum and cherry. However, we have at the present time absolutely discontinued the growing of all fruit trees except our hardy rootpruned apple trees. We have been practically compelled to do this on account of the enormous demand we have had the last eight or ten years for Gilbertson's Guaranteed Evergreens for windbreak purposes. We believe thoroughly in specializing in the nursery business. Our great specialty has always been evergreens for windbreak purposes. We have, however, had splendid success with our hardy rootpruned apple trees and a year ago we practically made up our minds to sell out our stock of these trees and discontinue the growing of apple trees entirely. The very great demand of the farmers of the Northwest for our hardy rootpruned apple trees has caused us to somewhat reconsider our intention.

### We Grow Only the Best Trees

We have never grown our nursery stock simply with one end in view—to make money. If we had we would have quit the business years ago for the first ten or fifteen years in the development of our business showed very little profit for us from the fact that we spent annually large sums of money in experimenting and developing our hardy evergreens and fruit trees.

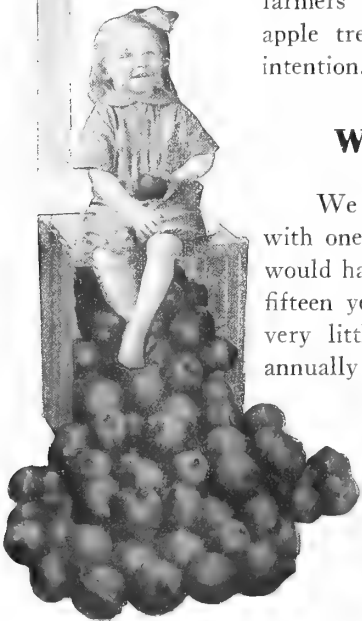
Our apple trees are a success due to our special method of rootpruning which is some-

thing along the very same lines as our process of developing our evergreens. We have experimented a great deal with apple trees in this section and grow only such varieties today as we have found to be absolutely hardy and best adapted to the Northwest. We have a block of about 100,000 hardy rootpruned apple trees that we are offering in two sizes—5 to 6 feet and 6 to 7 feet. This block of trees includes such standard varieties as the Northwestern Greening, Malinda, Patten's Greening, Wealthy, Duchess, Whitney and Haslop.

### We Believe There Is Big Money in Growing Apples In a Commercial Way

We have been close observers of the rapid development of the apple growing business in the Northwest. We have always believed that the Northwest offered splendid possibilities along this line. There is a great awakening among progressive farmers of the Northwest today along horticultural lines. They are grasping the possibilities in our offer to them in the way of a commercial orchard and we can not help but notice the great change of conditions that has taken place in the great Northwest along these lines. The conditions are ideal for growing apples in the Northwest in a commercial way.

The high prices paid for best apples on our markets is attracting the attention of the shrewd and up-to-date farmers to the possibilities along this line. You can not possibly make a mistake if you start a commercial orchard this spring with our hardy guaranteed rootpruned apple trees. Remember, our rootpruned apple trees are sold on the same guarantee plan as our Famous Evergreens. "It's all in the Roots." If our apple trees fail to grow they cost you nothing.



## Block of Our Hardy Rootpruned Trees

This illustration shows a block of our hardy rootpruned apple trees. These trees have all been rootpruned twice and have developed an excellent root system. They are in an ideal condition for transplanting from nursery into your orchard.

We challenge any nurseryman in the Northwest to show a nicer block of four to five year old apple trees. We are selling only select varieties adapted to soil and climatic conditions of the Northwest. Why not start a commercial orchard of our rootpruned apple trees now?



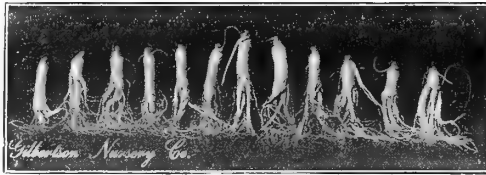
Our twice rootpruned apple trees ready for your commercial orchard.





# Ginseng

We grow ginseng successfully and profitably in our nurseries. We have been extensive growers of American Ginseng for the last 15 to 20 years and today have one of the largest ginseng arbors in the Northwest. Our present arbor consists of about seven million ginseng plants from



Six year old Ginseng Roots washed clean ready to be dried for market.

one to seven years old. We absolutely know from our past experience that the growing of ginseng is a profitable business.

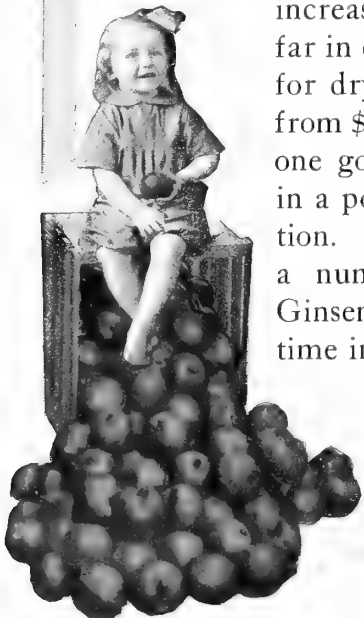
The price for the dry root has gradually increased from year to year as the demand is far in excess of the supply. The present price for dry, cultivated, American ginseng ranges from \$6.00 to \$8.00 per pound. Of course, anyone going into the ginseng business must be in a position to give it proper care and attention. He must also be in a position to wait a number of years for his crop to mature. Ginseng is a crop that requires considerable time in which to mature.

If you will set aside a small amount of land, and a comparatively small investment in the way of plants

and arbor, we are absolutely sure you can not fail to make this a profitable business. We sell annually large amounts of seeds as well as two and three year old plants for transplanting purposes. Our supply this year is exhausted and we do not have any plants or seeds to offer. If you are interested in the growing of ginseng we will be glad to send you our booklet giving valuable facts and information covering the growing of ginseng for market



A glimpse into our Ginseng arbor where you can see eight year old ginseng plants. These plants were dug last season and dried for market and produced an extraordinary heavy yield of dry roots, which were sold on the Minneapolis market at \$6.50 a pound.





purposes. This booklet is absolutely free for the asking.

### **The Market For Ginseng**

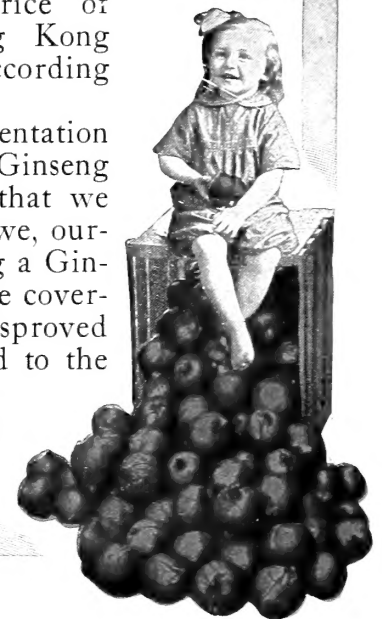
There has been a great deal of misunderstanding and incorrect information given in regard to the ginseng market so we are going to print here an extract from American Consul General Bragg of Hong Kong to show the actual market condition of American Ginseng in China and show you also what Mr. Bragg thinks of the future market.



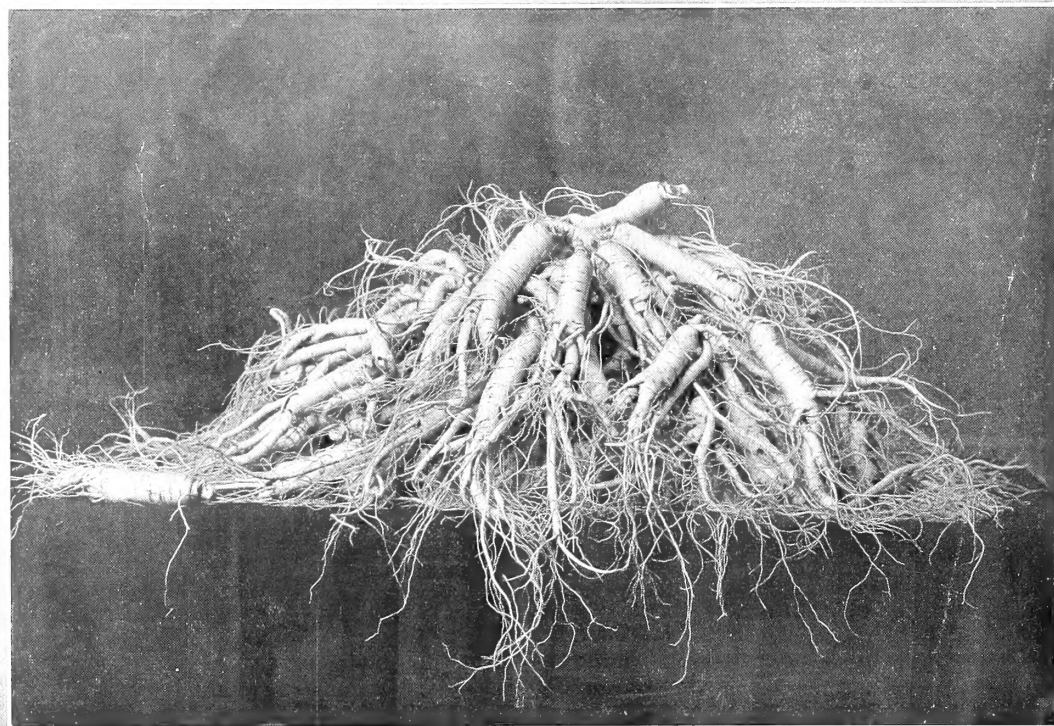
Another glimpse into our Ginseng Arbor where we show a block of four year old ginseng plants. The boy in the foreground is busy gathering the seed, although it is something unusual for ginseng plants only four years old to produce a very heavy crop of seed. We grow our ginseng plants under such ideal conditions that they produce a fair crop of seed even the second year from planting and these plants at the age of four years produce an extraordinary heavy crop of seed.

China is the principal market for American Ginseng. Our Consul General Bragg has prepared these statements in reply to numerous inquiries from the United States as to the future market for ginseng. In his report he writes as follows: "I have gathered all the information at hand, touching upon the ginseng subject, and find that the Chinese, after centuries of use of the ginseng root in various ways, endorse it as a superior tonic and invigorator and hence I can not see but what the market for ginseng in the future could be anything but lasting and reliable. The Chinese are a very superstitious people and have for centuries cultivated the belief that ginseng possesses spiritual power which no doubt is one reason why American Ginseng is so much sought for and commands such high values on the Chinese market. The present price of American Ginseng roots in Hong Kong ranges from \$10 to \$12 per pound, according to grade and quality."

There has been more misrepresentation regarding the actual growing of Ginseng than any other legitimate business that we know of. In fact, so much so, that we, ourselves, hesitated very much in starting a Ginseng arbor. However, our experience covering the last 20 years has absolutely disproved these misleading statements in regard to the growing of ginseng. All I ask is for you to investigate the Ginseng proposition.



**Ginseng Sells  
for \$10 to \$12  
a Pound in  
China—  
the World's  
Ginseng  
Market**



**Ginseng Sells  
for \$6 to \$8  
a Pound in the  
United States—  
the Producing  
Market  
for China**



#### **Our 1909 Season's Record**

The above photograph shows part of the 1,800 pounds green ginseng roots that we harvested from our arbor the past season. These roots were eight years old at the time of harvesting and averaged five roots to the pound when green. We sold the dry roots on the Minneapolis market for \$6.50 a pound.

# How We Stand At Home

As we are selling our stock direct from our nurseries to our customers it is only right you should know something of our responsibility and standing. We are printing here letters from our banks at Mason City and St. Ansgar where our nurseries are located. We would ask you to write these banks or any other banks in these two places for information about us as we solicit the fullest investigation of our past record for straight-forward square dealing as well as for the character of our stock.

We find it easier and more satisfactory to do business with the man who has confidence in us. We assure you we have confidence in our customers and in our stock or we would not do business on the open straight-forward plan we do.

**St. Ansgar Bank**

*Mary Smith, President*

RESPONSIBILITY \$ 350,000.00

*R. C. Lubien, Cashier*

*St. Ansgar, Iowa* Oct. 26th, 1908

To Whom It May Concern.

This certifies that the writer has been personally acquainted with G.G. Gilbertson and his son, A. O. Gilbertson of the Gilbertson Nursery Company of this place and of Mason City, Iowa for many years. We have found them to have been strictly honest in all their dealings with us and honorable in their dealings with their customers. They have made a specialty of evergreens and have developed an immense business in that line by the quality and successful growing trees they have furnished the farmers of Northern Iowa for the past twenty five years. Their aim seems to be to make satisfied customers. In this immediate vicinity may be seen some of the finest evergreen groves that were ever grown anywhere, trees that came from the Gilbertson Nurseries.

We take pleasure in recommending the Gilbertson Nursery Company to those who desire a first class article in the evergreen line, and honest and honorable treatment.

Respectfully,

*R. C. Lubien*  
Cashier.

NO 2574

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF MASON CITY, IOWA

CAPITAL, SURPLUS AND PROFITS \$ 300,000.00

C. H. MINDELL, PRES. W. G. CAGLEY, ASST. CASHIER C. A. PARKER, ASST. CASHIER

UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY

MASON CITY, IOWA.

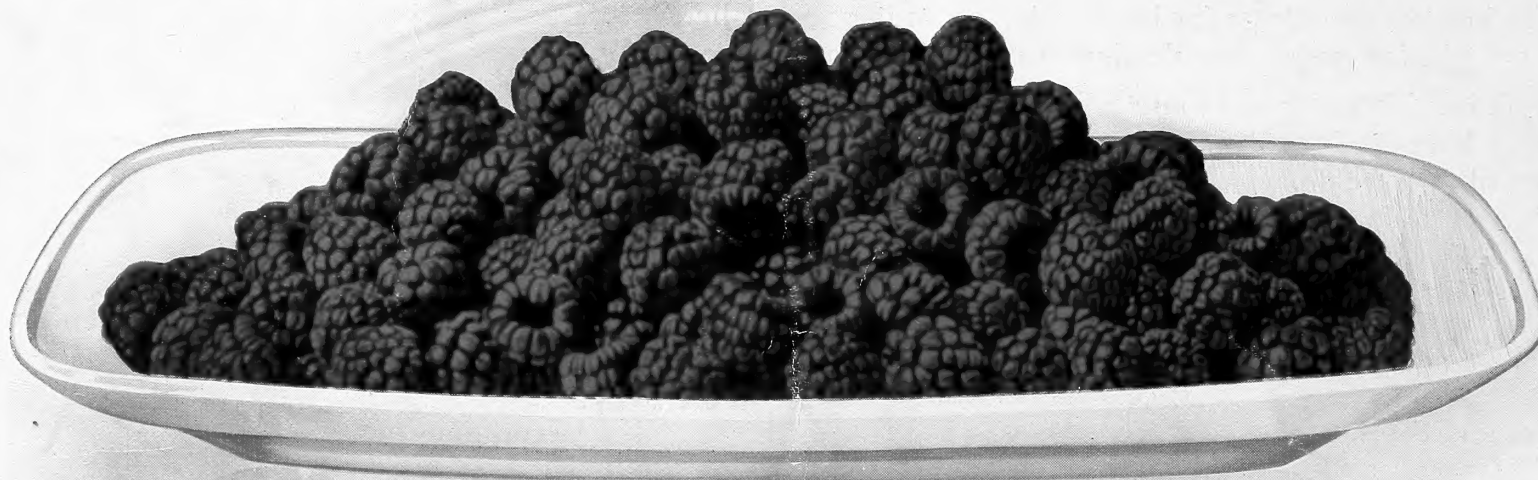
Nov. 4, 1908.

To whom this may come,--

We take great pleasure in commending the Gilbertson Nursery Company of St. Ansgar, Ia. and Mason City, Iowa, as being perfectly reliable, and worthy of confidence. We have had some years of acquaintance with Mr. Gilbertson and have found him up to his engagements, in every way. He is absolutely square in his dealing, and all representations he had made concerning his business and the sale of his product have been fully and fairly met. We commend them as being honorable, straightforward and reliable, and we also comment the quality of the Nursery stock which they are turning out. It is hardy, thrifty, and well suited to the climatic conditions of the Northwest. We are sure any one patronizing the Gilbertson Nursery will find the nursery stock all that is represented, and will be perfectly satisfied with the purchase.

Yours respectfully,  
*[Signature]*  
President.

"GILBERTSON  
GUARANTEED"



The Most Delicious Table Fruit of All  
"The Kind that Melts in your Mouth"

*A plate of our  
ALTON IMPROVED RED RASPBERRIES  
the most wonderful raspberry that  
has ever been grown. This shows the  
berries only half size*